

Oil prices chop higher on
mixed signals **pg 11**

Hopkins to face Paskal
for crown **pg 14**

Aruba government subsidies
ARUBUS with 60% **pg 3**

Casa Tua Barcelona Combines Lunch & Shopping, in the heart of town



Casa Tua Barcelona is promoting a special Saturday combo pairing shopping with lunch in town. The gorgeous restaurant now conveniently nestled in

receive a 15% discount at Casa Tua Barcelona with either lunch or dinner

Casa Tua Barcelona always delivers a good time, with Happy Hour daily from 5pm to 7pm, serving all drinks at half price. To add to the ambiance and festivity on Saturday, COOL FM, one of Aruba's most popular radio stations will conduct a live transmission on premises, sponsored by Bacardi Rum & Dewar's whiskey.

Saturday's program also highlights local guitarist Ernesto Ferro who will play his guitar, live, from 7pm to 9pm, with songs springing from the 50s to the 80s, embracing many great classics, and affording local patron an extended 15% discount on all food & drinks

Casa Tua Barcelona is open Monday to Saturday, 11am to 10pm. In addition to serving daily lunch and dinner and featuring different changing specials, the restaurant showcases Flamenco singer and dancer Angela Croes on Wednesdays



crust pizzas.

Saturday combo pairing of shopping with lunch grants lunch-goers a 10% discount at Benetton, San Marina and XOXO. Shoppers at Benetton, San Marina and XOXO will

and Fridays, delivering live 'Rumba Gitana' music, Latin influenced, Gypsy style entertainment, from 8pm.

Lunch, dinner and shopping in Oranjestad, never sounded so good!

Bureau Sostenemi submits report to Minister

Bureau Sostenemi (Bureau Support Me), resorts under the ministry of Social Affairs, which falls under the watch of Michelle Winklaar-Hooyboer. This Bureau is the first point of contact in cases of child abuse, and for advice regarding concerns related to matters of abuse of children. This Bureau registers all abuse cases that are reported.

Registration of each case is important so as to have a clear picture of what the situation is on Aruba, which will also give us an idea as to what to do and how to deal with the situation to eliminate the mistreatment and abuse of children in our community.

Every year this Bureau presents a report to the Minister of Social Affairs reflecting the work they have done during the year. On the occasion of their 5th year they presented the information in the form of a brochure. The brochure is subsequently sent to all organizations involved in the social

arena of our community.

The different forms of mistreatment registered at the Bureau for 2006 to 2011 were: physical mistreatment; such as beating, pinching, choking and burning; physical negligence, lack of medical care, poor nutrition, physical hygiene, emotional mistreatment, such as shouting and cursing, depriving children contact with a parent; calling the child ugly names, loneliness, lack of proper supervision, lack of attention and affection, sexual abuse and domestic violence.

One remarkable observation from the graphic presented in the report, indicates that while the number of calls for assistance increased during the period 2006 to 2011, and even though most of these cases required the help from other instances such as Voogdijraad; the number of cases that were taken to court saw a significant decline.

Emotional and mental negligence were among the most

prevalent. Negligence came as a result of working parents who have little or no time to be with their children. Or, parents facing separation or divorce proceedings. Or, in cases where the parent is absent because of their own drug or alcohol dependency or for financial problems.

All in all the Bureau has noted that the amount of cases registered have increased over the past 5 years. This shows that the community has become more critical and conscientious about abuse of children and that they are more inclined to report these. Every case reported receives immediate attention and the Bureau does everything possible to help to resolve the situation, directing callers to the right sources for referrals when this is required. The report submitted also points out that the community has taking a more positive and responsible approach to the children in our homes and community.

Netanyahu rejects Obama's call on 1967 borders



WASHINGTON (AFP) – Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu bluntly told President Barack Obama yesterday that Israel could not accept his call to return to its "indefensi-

ble" 1967 borders to forge peace with the Palestinians.

In a dramatic Oval Office appearance after two hours of talks, which ran considerably over time, Netanyahu warned

that a "peace based on illusions will crash eventually on the rocks of Middle Eastern reality."

"The only peace that will endure is one that is based on reality, on unshakeable facts. I think for there to be peace, the Palestinians will have to accept some basic realities," a grim-faced Netanyahu said.

"We don't have a lot of margin for error, because Mr President, history will not give the Jewish people another chance."

Netanyahu said he would work with Obama to seek a secure peace for Israel, but also warned that Palestinian leader Mahmud Abbas would have to choose between a new unity pact with the militant group Hamas or peace with Israel.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

World backs Obama Palestinian plan as Israel digs in heels

PARIS, France (AFP) - Key global players yesterday backed US President Barack Obama's call for a Palestinian state including land lost in the 1967 war as Israel insisted there could be no return to "indefensible" borders.

As Obama's vision was welcomed by the European Union, the United Nations, Russia, the Palestinians and parts of the Arab world, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu bluntly rejected it as "unrealistic."

"While Israel is prepared to make generous compromises for peace it cannot go back to the 1967 lines because these lines are indefensible," Netanyahu said as the world called for an urgent resolution of the conflict.

"The only peace that will endure is one that is based on reality, on unshakeable facts. I think for there to be peace,

the Palestinians will have to accept some basic realities," a grim-faced Netanyahu said in a dramatic Oval Office appearance after two hours of talks with Obama.

This prompted Palestinian leader Mahmud Abbas to urge Obama to press Netanyahu to accept a Palestinian state based on 1967 borders.

"We call on President Obama and the Mideast Quartet to pressure Netanyahu to accept the 1967 borders," Abbas' spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeina said in Ramallah.

"Netanyahu's position is an official rejection of Mr Obama's initiative, of international legitimacy and of international law."

The diplomatic Quartet on the Middle East, which includes the European Union, the United Nations, the

United States and Russia, expressed "strong support" for Obama's statement that a Palestinian state should include land that Israel has occupied since the 1967 war.

European nations in particular have sought to relaunch the peace process using the Quartet, which set out a roadmap to peace under a land-for-security deal.

Israel would have to give up territory, while all Palestinian factions, notably the Hamas rulers in Gaza, would have to recognize Israel's right to exist and end violence.

EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton "warmly welcomes President Obama's confirmation that the borders of Israel and Palestine should be based on the 1967 lines," a spokeswoman said.

Life with no parole OK for 14-year-old: US court

CHICAGO, Illinois (AFP) - Wisconsin's top court ruled yesterday that sending a 14-year-old killer to jail without the chance of parole is not an "unduly harsh and excessive" punishment for a gruesome crime.

Omer Ninham is one of over 2,200 of US teens sentenced to life in jail without parole after they were prosecuted as adults, according to the Equal Justice Initiative.

Some 73 of those involved children aged 13 or 14 at the time of the crime.

In what the court described as a "horrific and senseless crime," Ninham was convicted of picking a fight with a 13-year-old boy who was riding home on his bike in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Ninham and a group of four other teens didn't know Zong Vang, a Hmong immigrant, but

just decided to "mess with this kid" in September 1998, court records showed. They beat him and chased him up the ramp of a nearby parking garage, where Ninham and a 13-year-old boy beat Vang some more and then tossed him over the edge.

A bystander testified that Vang's 45-foot fall sounded like "a bag of wet cement hitting the pavement."

"Under the circumstances of this case, Ninham's punishment is severe, but it is not disproportionately so," Judge Annette Ziegler wrote in the 68-page opinion. "We conclude that his sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole is not unduly harsh and excessive."

The US Supreme Court ruled last year that sentencing juveniles to life without parole for non-homicide cases is unconstitutional.

'Baby Doc' Duvalier called before a Haitian judge

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AFP) - Former Haitian president Jean-Claude Duvalier was summoned to a meeting yesterday morning before a Haitian investigating magistrate, a Duvalier lawyer told AFP.

"We are in the judge's office to finish this complaint," said Duvalier lawyer Reynold George, without specifying which of the several complaints against Duvalier he was referring to.

Duvalier returned to Haiti on January after 25 years in exile, and has been accused by the government of corruption, embezzlement of public funds, and association with known criminal elements.

He has also been subject to

numerous complaints filed against him for crimes against humanity, including arbitrary arrest, torture and illegal detention. One of those complaints was filed by Haitian journalist Michele Montas, the former spokeswoman for UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon.

Since his return, "Baby Doc" has been able to move around the capital, although his residence in the hills surrounding the capital is video-monitored.

Duvalier, the son of the former dictator François Duvalier -- known as "Papa Doc" -- took power in 1971 and ruled for 19 years, the longest dictatorship in the poorest country in the Western hemisphere.

First findings on Rio-Paris crash next week

PARIS, France (AFP) - Investigators will publish next week the first findings from their probe into the Air France flight that crashed into the Atlantic in 2009, they said yesterday.

The aviation authority BEA, investigating the crash, "will publish at the end of next week factual findings about the flight which will determine the circumstances but not at all the cause," a BEA spokeswoman told AFP.

The French government

said Thursday the cause of the crash would be known by the end of June, when the flight recorders have been fully examined.

The Airbus A330 crashed en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris on June 1, 2009, with the death of all 228 people on board.

Interim inquiry results point to a problem with the jet's air speed probes -- known as "Pitots" -- which are thought to have iced up.

US delivers 120,000 meals to Libyan rebels: Pentagon

WASHINGTON, (AFP) - The Pentagon said it had delivered 120,000 Halal meals to Libyan rebels as part of US plans to provide \$25 million in non-lethal aid to forces fighting Moamer Kadhafi's regime.

Other assistance -- including medical supplies, tents, uniforms, sandbags, flak jackets -- "will be delivered in the coming weeks," spokesman Colonel Dave Lapan said in an

email.

The first shipment of the ready-to-eat meals arrived in the rebel stronghold of Benghazi on May 10 after the United States announced plans nearly a month ago to provide non-lethal assistance to the rebels.

The United States is supporting a NATO-led air campaign designed to protect civilians against Kadhafi's regime.

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FIVE GUYS

Aruba
Burger and Fries



Aruba Government subsidizes Arubus by a whopping 60%!

Last week Aruba's minister of Transport, Otmar Oduber, met with the public transport company Connexion of the Netherlands. The purpose of this visit was to ascertain the possibility for cooperation from them for assistance with the situation of our own public transport company, Arubus.

The minister remarked that Arubus for many years has not been operating the way a company should to at least "break even." There is actually an enormous amount of expenses in the operations of Arubus. In addition to the high cost of operation, there is an extremely high payroll as compared to the identical type of company in the Netherlands and in our region.

On the other hand, the government's financial participation in Arubus is much



too big in view of the benchmark for subsidizing such an enterprise.

No doubt, according to the minister, that Arubus has an important social roll in our community and the government is very cognizant of that fact. However, the company must recognize that it is not acceptable for them to spend the people's money in an irresponsible manner.

It is a given, as seen in countries around the world,

that public transportation is a social activity that the government must subsidize. The norm ought to be that between 40 to 50% of the total expenses should be subsidized by the government. However, in Aruba the subsidy from the government is at 60%! This simply proves that the company is operating in a non-viable manner. It is in this context that Oduber is looking for a solution and for

alliances with companies from whom we can get support. Said alliance should come from companies who

have demonstrated that they can and have been operating successfully for many years, as is the case with Connexion in the Netherlands.

Task Force for Energy Surveys should be implemented According to Parliamentarian Rasmijn

During a public hearing to discuss the matter of the price of water and electricity, parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn, raised the issue of instituting a task force. According to Rasmijn, we should institute a special task force comprised of students under the guidance of WEB/ELMAR.

The purpose of said task force would be to visit the homes of our families in the lower income bracket, elder families, and families with different physical limitations to conduct an "Energy Survey." Many of our people do not understand why they are paying so much for water and electricity. This task force would conduct investigation, provide information and offer suggestions on how they can reduce their consumption of water and electricity.

WEB and ELMAR have a program in place, dubbed, "Schoe pa Spaar" (choose to save). They provide this service free of charge to residents of the FCC homes; while they charge

large companies, such as the hotels for the service.

According to Rasmijn, we can begin with those most vulnerable in our community and eventually cover every home.

Just like the Census takers, we can come up with a "Survey Group" who would be



charged with making everyone aware of the high cost and how to reduce our utility bills.

Information obtained from the Department of Socail Affairs, SVB, Elmar and WEB, would be crucially in identifying the group that we must target. The Task Force, made up of students who want to earn some money during the summer vacation, would visit the assigned homes. In addition to the money they would earn, they would also have the added satisfaction of having helped numerous families reduce their monthly utility bills.

This, according to Rasmijn, is a noble and effective way to help our people to save water and electricity and so doing have more money in their pockets to spend on their families.

The petition by Rasmijn was to be formulated on paper as a motion and then presented during the next session of the meeting.

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Banco di Caribe donates AWG 2,500 to "Fundacion Pro Lechi Mama"

In celebration of Mother's Day



ORANJESTAD – Management of Banco Di Caribe was pleased to contribute to "Fundacion Pro Lechi Mama," encouraging mothers to breastfeed their children. "Fundacion Pro Lechi Mama" (PLM) organizes lectures to future mothers on the

importance of breastfeeding their newborn babies. Banco di Caribe supports such important community services and hopes with the donation the foundation can continue their important work.

Photo shows General Manager Willem Lacle hand-

ing a check for the amount of AWG 2,500 over to PLM Vice President Carroll Kock and PLM Boardmember Minouche Lopez in presence of Junior Marketing Executive/Junior Corporate Manager Sue- Lan Liao Jen.

Thomas and Deborah Wallace honored at Aruba Beach Club



Recently, Thomas and Deborah Wallace were honored as Distinguished Visitor of Aruba. The honor was bestowed on them for their more than 10 consecutive visit to Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Aruba Ministry of Tourism as a 'thank you' gesture for their love and appreciation for our island. The honoring took place at the Aruba Beach Club and was presented by Aruba Tourism Authority representative, Ms. Marouska Heyliger. Photo shows Thomas and Deborah Wallace proudly showing off their certificates in presence of Marouska Heyliger and Izaira Pirela of the Aruba Beach Club.

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A fascination with the subjective Mind

"The Power Of Imagination and Suggestion" lecture

ORANJESTAD -- Every day, every hour, every minute, every second our mind is bombarded by suggestions, some we follow, some we resist. What if there were a way that we could selectively identify the suggestions that we would like to follow and actually program ourselves to follow them. Such actions could do wonders for us and could assist us in making unlikely changes in our lives. Wishful thinking? Maybe, maybe not!

On Thursday May 29, 2011 De Suikertuin Restaurant will present a lecture which will elaborate on this topic and identify if indeed we have such power and if suggestions can allow us to make these radical changes to our lives.

The lecture will be presented by Eddy Oduber, a certified hypnosis instructor, who will explain how suggestions and imagination can impact your life. He will identify the levels of the mind and how with hypnosis/auto-hypnosis profound changes can be made. Since his earliest recollection, Eddy has had a fascination with the "subjective" mind and after a long journey he arrived at the art of hypnosis. In the 1950's both the British and the American Medical Association approved the use of clinical

hypnosis, since then hundreds of thousands of people have found hypnosis to be an effective way to stop smoking, lose weight and otherwise improve their lives. Hypnosis is a naturally occurring heightened focused state of awareness. Simply stated, hypnosis is the narrowing of concentration where you focus on one particular thing at a time. With hypnosis you remain under control of your selectivity, your willpower and all your faculties. While every individual reacts differently to suggestions, this deepened state of pleasant and suggestible relaxation can allow very positive changes.

Eddy Oduber has multiple certifications including board certified hypnotherapist. He is the director of Aruba Hypnosis Center a Smoking Cessation Center and Client-Centered Hypnosis Center. He is also the facilitator of "The Amazing Secrets of Your MindS" Seminar which allows participants to identify the invisible powers that govern them and presents tools that allow participants to make those significant changes in their lives.

The lecture will be held at De Suikertuin on May 29, 2011 at 7:30 pm at the Wilhelminastraat 64; entrance AWG. 25.00 (includes coffee and)

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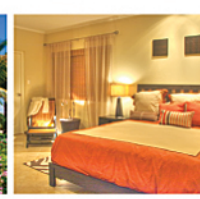
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SETAR executing expansion and upgrading work on its cellular network



ORANJESTAD -- These last few days citizens experienced some congestions on the cellular network. SETAR NV, at present is executing different adjustments on its network system and big changes are under way in order to offer all SETAR cellular clients better service thru a more advanced network.

The expansion work is

necessary due to the successful sale of smart phones on the island. SETAR N.V. experienced a tremendous growth in smart phone use, particularly BlackBerry and Android phones. This accelerated growth puts enormous pressure for a prompt expansion and upgrading job.

Clients may possible experience intermittent interruption and/or congestion in

the service, mostly affecting smart phones and broadband wireless users.

Occasionally, there may also be congestion when making a call. The expansion and upgrading work will be performed in the coming days and executed in phases. When finalized, SETAR will have a larger network capacity, offering its clients higher quality service.

Dutch NGO wins UN award for saving children

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands -- The Dutch branch of the international Médecins Sans Frontières, (MSF Holland or 'Artsen zonder Grenzen') has won a prestigious United Nations award. The 2011 Green Star Award was bestowed on the humanitarian NGO for its emergency response to victims of lead poisoning in Nigeria. The ceremony was held yesterday in Bern, Switzerland.

MSF Holland's most recent environmental emergency operation began in the northern Nigerian state of Zamfara in March 2010, and is still ongoing. MSF has treated more than 1,000 children for lead poisoning. It is one of the most serious cases of acute heavy metal poisoning ever recorded.

"MSF welcomes the Green Star Award. It offers an opportunity to continue highlighting this environmental health crisis," said MSF Emergency Manager Lauren Cooney, who accepted the award on behalf of the organisation.

MSF Holland's operation focused particularly on children younger than five years old, who are more vulnerable to the symptoms of poisoning.

The lead poisoning results from the processing of gold ore. Gold seekers break the stone into pieces and collect the gold pieces with tools used to harvest grain or with cooking utensils, exposing people to the toxic levels of lead found in the ore.

Ms Cooney stressed the need for more follow-up action needed in the treatment of victims. "MSF again calls for more assistance with the vital, ongoing response to lead poisoning in northern Nigeria. There are limits to what we can do as an emergency aid organisation."

Five other organisations or individuals received prizes alongside MSF Holland, including a US academic for her research work on making houses safer during earthquakes. One award was posthumous – Linda Norgrove died in a rescue attempt after she was kidnapped in Afghanistan last October.

The Green Star Award is presented every two years to individuals, organisations or donors who have stood out in their response to global environmental emergencies by the UN Environment Program.

Sci-Tech

Implant breakthrough helps paraplegic man stand, walk



Rob Summers, a paraplegic, being moved into position on a treadmill where he has been able to stand and take repeated steps voluntarily following epidural spinal cord stimulation and repeated motion training

PARIS (AFP) – In a world first, neurosurgeons in the US said on Friday electrodes implanted in the lower spine had enabled a paraplegic man to stand up unaided, move his legs voluntarily and, with help, walk on a treadmill.

The therapy marks an exciting advance in the quest to overcome crippling injuries of the spinal cord, they said.

"This is a breakthrough," said Susan Harkema, a professor at the Spinal Cord Research Center at the University of Louisville, Kentucky, who led the 11-member team.

"It opens up a huge opportunity to improve the daily functioning of these individuals...but we have a long road ahead."

The work, published online by The Lancet, was carried out on a young volunteer, now aged 25, who had been completely paralysed below the chest after a tragic hit-and-run accident in 2006.

Today, after 26 months of retraining of the leg muscles, followed by the pioneering surgery, the patient can reach a standing position and support his own weight for up to four minutes at a time.

Helped by a harness support and some assistance from a therapist, he can make repeated stepping motions on a treadmill. He can also voluntarily move his toes, ankles, knees and hips on command.

The patient, Rob Summers, said he was ecstatic.

"This procedure has completely changed my life," he said. "For someone who for four years was unable to even

move a toe, to have the freedom and ability to stand on my own is the most amazing feeling.

"To be able to pick up my foot and step down again was unbelievable, but beyond all of that, my sense of wellbeing has changed. My physique and muscle tone has improved greatly, so much that most people don't even believe I am paralysed."

Paralysis comes from damage to the spinal cord down which the brain sends electrical signals along nerve fibres to instruct limb movement.

The research focuses on nerve networks in the lower spine that are relatively autonomous -- they can follow through the commands for weight-bearing and coordinated stepping without input from the brain.

The mechanism works thanks to feedback from nerves in the muscles of the legs and feet that is sent directly to the spinal cord.

It is this sensory input that helps the individual to adjust his balance and speed of movement and level of weight-bearing in response to surfaces and inclines. The technique entailed giving Summers 26 months of locomotor training to get his leg muscles used again to the sensation of movement, thus reviving the feedback system.

Surgeons then implanted 16 electrodes in the lumbosacral spinal cord, connecting them to thick nerve bundles that largely control movement of the ankles, hips, knees and toes.

The unit then sent down electrical signals to mimic those sent down the spine by the brain in order to initiate movement.

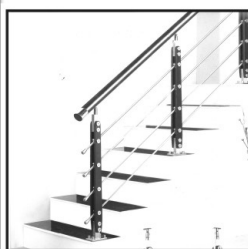
With Summers, electrostimulation was part of sessions lasting up to 250 minutes.

The success has fired hopes that at least some individuals with spinal paralysis can use a portable stimulation unit to trigger the movements needed to stand up and bear weight.

There could be even greater secondary benefits, including perhaps the restoration of bladder and sphincter control and sexual response.

But only one person has so far had the treatment, out of five authorised by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

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Fujitsu Design AWARD 2011 Winner is: "The Aid"



Lithuanian designer Egle Ugintaitė shows her award winning design entitled "The Aid" for which she received the grand prize of 30.000 Euros

Tokyo - Fujitsu Limited and Fujitsu Design Limited this past week announced the selection of winners for the FUJITSU Design Award 2011: A LIFE with Future Computing, the full-scale international design competition, open to designers around the world, aimed at the development of PC-related designs bringing innovation to people's daily lives.

Over 1,000 PC design submissions were received during the competition from countries across the world. The Grand Prize was awarded to "The Aid," an ICT-enabled cane from the LIFE-DESIGN category for innovative "lifestyles" for the



German designe Philipp Schaafe displays his award winning design entitled "Crowd." Schaafe received the runner-up prize of the 10,000 euro prize money



German designer Raphael Lang (L) and Taiwanese designer Hou Yu-Lin (R) display their award winning design entitled "Integral Code." Lang and Hou received the runner-up prize of 10,000 euros.

year 2020.

Runner-Up Prizes were awarded to "Crowd," a PC design that can be operated to fit a variety of usage scenarios from the LIFEBOOK category for notebook PCs launching in 2013; and "Integral Cord," an innovative ICT-cord enabling a wide

range of uses and communications applications from the LIFE-DESIGN category.

By hosting the FUJITSU Design Award 2011, Fujitsu aims to further promote the pursuit of "human-centered" designs, while helping to open the door to new lifestyle possibilities

Health & Living

Health Tip: Remind Children & Teens of Pedestrian Safety



-- Children and teens may feel like they are invincible, and that they can take care of themselves.

But whether they're walking to school, or hustling to a nearby friend's house, it's important to remind your children about pedestrian safety. Safe Kids USA offers these suggestions:

*Always look left, right then left again before you cross the street, and pay attention while crossing.

*Walk across an intersection, don't run.

*Follow all traffic signs and signals.

*Walk in the direction against traffic, or on a path or sidewalk.

*Whenever sunlight is dim, carry a flashlight and wear something reflective.

*Never play in a driveway, parking lot or street.

*Always take the same (safest) route to regular destinations. Make sure the route has the fewest intersections.



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Rep. Giffords Recovering After Skull Surgery

-- Rep. Gabrielle Giffords continued her remarkable recovery Thursday, one day after doctors inserted a plastic implant to replace the piece of skull that had been removed after she was shot in the head by a would-be assassin four months ago.

The Arizona congresswoman is "recovering well after her surgery today," read

a statement from TIRR Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston, where the surgery was performed, the Associated Press reported.

Doctors removed the portion of skull to ease pressure on her brain, which swelled after she was shot.

Still, her doctors said Giffords continues to face a long road to recovery, and have re-

peatedly talked about reaching a new "normal," the AP said.

While the latest surgery is a major move forward, it will have no effect on her neurological status, and any speech or other therapy will continue, according to one expert, Dr. Anders Cohen, chief of neurosurgery at The Brooklyn Hospital Center in

New York City.

"This is part of the recovery," Cohen said. "This is on the happier side, because it is not lifesaving. Swelling is no longer an issue, so let's protect the brain and let's give her a better cosmetic look. It's a quick thing with a fast recovery," he said.

After the shooting in Tucson, doctors removed a

large piece of Giffords' skull to give the brain room to swell. It's likely that the bullet that pierced her brain also shattered the bone, experts said.

Replacement surgery isn't done until the swelling stops and the brain has shrunk back to its normal size, Cohen added.

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A double celebration for Pattie and Charlie with their ABC extended family



CT Justice of the Peace Denise Meceli performs the ceremony



Things are just ducky for Charlie and Pattie



The kiss

A few years ago, when Pattie and Charlie Starner of Pittsburgh attended a sunset renewal of vows by Paula and Craig Le Blanc on the beachfront by the Aruba Beach Club, they both agreed, "we need to do something like that!"

And so they did! On Thursday, May 19, as the sun dipped below the horizon, Pattie and Charlie, surrounded by dozens of their fellow timeshare owners and dear friends from the ABC, celebrated 20 years of wedded bliss and 25 years of memorable vacations on Aruba. Over the years, new friends were made the during their annual 2 weeks, including Denise Meceli, a Justice of the

Peace from Connecticut, who performed the ceremony, and their attendants Dora Cudemo from Florida and Mike Boutin from Maine; a good example of the breadth and depth of the special relationships they have formed over the years with their ABC "extended family."

Pattie and Charlie credit being able to laugh together for the longevity of their union; which was further confirmed by their light-hearted poetic vows.

Their good friend Michael recited a poignant poem of love written by Pattie's father, Robert Moffat, many years ago, for his wife when they

married.

"Communication, humor and friendship, are our secrets for a happy married life," assert Pattie Charlie, "We are each others best friend."

Paula and Craig, who inspired this lovely evening for all, hosted the reception in their beachfront union, with a veritable feast prepared by all those attending.

Wonderful memories and lasting friendships are made of moments like these, and this



popular couple lent their own highly unique style to the occasion.

by Rosalie Klein



Pattie and Charlie with the ABC extended family



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Masterclass Work/Life Balancing workshops with Dr. Henry Does begin today



Dr. Henry Does

Aruba is honored to have Dr. Henry Does, a specialist in Occupation Health and stress related ailments conducting a three-week program focused on lifestyle improvement every Saturday morning at Windows on Aruba in the Dive Links Clubhouse, beginning today.

Dr. Does received his medical degree in Amsterdam, in Occupation Health and Stress Medicine, then continued his study of Mind/Body Medicine at Harvard Medical School with noted Cardiologist Dr. Herbert Benson. His interest in this field was sparked when he discovered much of the prescribed practices of stress management proved particularly beneficial for him in handling his own highly demanding life.

Dr. Does has been working in the field for more than 15 years; there has been irrefutable evidence that techniques of focusing one's energy and developing the relaxation response can be major

contributors to controlling and preventing hypertension, heart disease and other chronic, debilitating ailments, which are so often stress related, or exacerbated.

Dr. Benson is the best-selling author of "The Relaxation Response" and "The Mind/Body Effect: How behavioral medicine can show you the way to better health," the Saturday seminars prescribe to this philosophy. Topics covered during the seminars include:

- A model for lifestyle balance
- Theory and instruction of the relaxation response (ex. Benson-Henry Protocol)
- Effective sleeping, nutrition and movement (Tai Chi)
- Coping strategies
- Social-emotional effectiveness
- Metacognitive techniques (RET, mindfulness)

Each Saturday the program begins with a sunrise session of Tai Chi on the clubhouse terrace at 6:30 AM.

Stress and related chronic ailments are no longer the ken of men, as Dr. Does notes in our modern society, where women work just as much as their husbands, and usually still shoulder the burden of raising the children and maintaining the home, conditioning oneself to understand and trigger our relaxation response is crucial. Follow-up classes are May 28 and June 4; anyone wishing to participate can join at anytime. The fee is a special price of \$200, which includes a light breakfast, and each session finishes at 10:30 AM. For more information call 564-6414 or contact Dr. Does via e-mail at idadoes@hotmail



Classes begin with early morning Tai Chi sessions

by Rosalie Klein

SETAR announces a new cable channel: SPACE

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba Telecommunication Company, SETAR N.V., announces to the general public, and its subscribers in particular, there will be a change in its cable television service. Channel 19 TBS will now be the action-packed channel SPACE. Fans of action films can now enjoy a channel with unparalleled programs dedicated to their interest.

SPACE invites all cable clients to enjoy the experience of their big screen Hollywood movies featuring action, suspense, terror, science fiction, adventure and thrillers. SPACE will also broadcast successful series, important boxing matches and the very popular Strikeforce mixed martial art matches. All these programs made the launching of SPACE in 1991 a very successful channel.

SPACE programming is distinctive, offering among others:

Adrenalina: the best action films, including Batman Begins, Casino Royale, The Kingdom and Superman Returns.

Club del Miedo: the most original and frightening of horror films i.e.: The Haunting, The Grudge 3, The Last House on the left, The Mist and Drag me to Hell.

Crime Zone: whether a perfect crime or not, a mys-

tery or not, a crime film always offers suspense. SPACE carries fare such as Collateral, The Brave One, The Matador and Firewall.

Series: Productions that capture viewers attention from the very first episode and the desire to continue watching until the very last; Rizzoli & Isles, Leverage, Dark Blue, Southland, Justified and The Closer.

NBA: Thursday night is basketball night. All basketball fans can follow the action and drama of the National Basketball Association (NBA) matches, exclusively on SPACE

Combat Space: Pure adrenaline on TV screen with the best boxing matches, LIFE from Las Vegas, Los Angeles and other big European cities. SPACE is celebrating its 20th anniversary, offering boxing fans unbeatable nights with the most exciting boxing matches.

Strikeforce: Every week viewers can experience tremendous matches where the fighters put forward utmost effort and struggle to the last to stay on their feet during the remarkable mixed martial arts bouts.

For more information on SPACE readers can call SETAR N.V. at tel. 525-1799 or visit its website: www.setar.aw

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COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. And so on (abbr.)
4. Indebted to
9. Expression of disgust
12. Highest minor-league level
13. Young Shakespearean hero
14. Vocalize
15. "Treasure Island" inits.
16. Stupid people
17. Slippery —
18. Black Hawk et al.
20. Actress Hayward
22. "ER" characters
23. Actress Delaney
24. Tijuana treats
27. Ice-T, Ice Cube, and Vanilla Ice
31. Physicians' gp.
32. Procured
33. Hickory, e.g.
34. Forceful
37. Yields
39. "___ Tin Tin"
40. Advanced degree (abbr.)
41. Insurance term
44. Voters' structures
47. Cut branches
48. Racetracks
50. Legal — Society

52. WSW's opp.

53. Large nail
54. Stat for Alex Rodriguez
55. Conifer
56. Narnia leader
57. Suffix for a doctrine

DOWN

1. Corn piece
2. Bath powder
3. Legal tender
4. Directives
5. Canine comments
6. Rascals
7. Previously named
8. "___ Girl" (CW teen show)
9. Operates
10. Big party
11. Religious

song

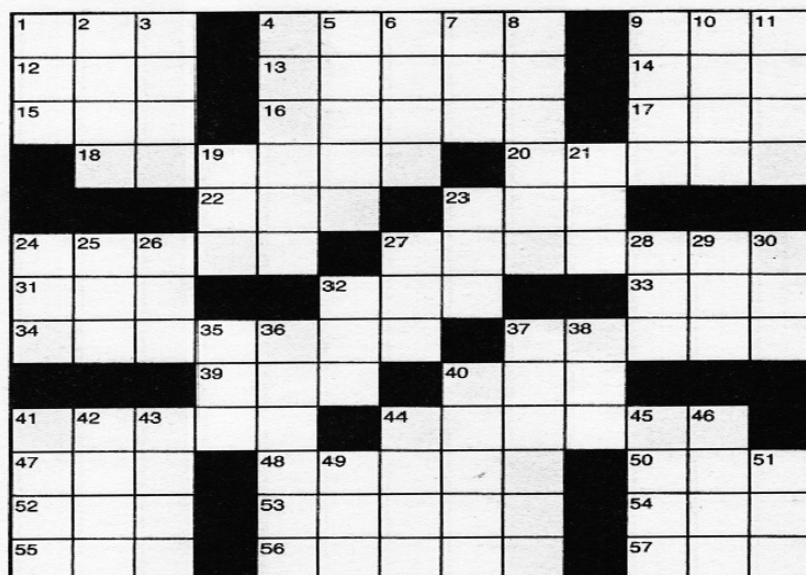
19. Bride's response (2 wds.)
21. Ref's colleague
23. "Krazy ___"
24. Small bit
25. Etiquette's Vanderbilt
26. No ___ do
27. Mythical bird
28. Culmination
29. Regret bitterly
30. Wall and Sesame (abbr.)
32. Bar request
35. Onassis, informally
36. Champagne concoction
37. Picked
38. NYC summer

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setting

40. Welk tune
41. Musical symbol
42. Actress Anderson
43. Mimic
44. Court security
45. Spy Mata —
46. Bro and sis, e.g.
49. Presidents' running mates (abbr.)
51. Lower the lights



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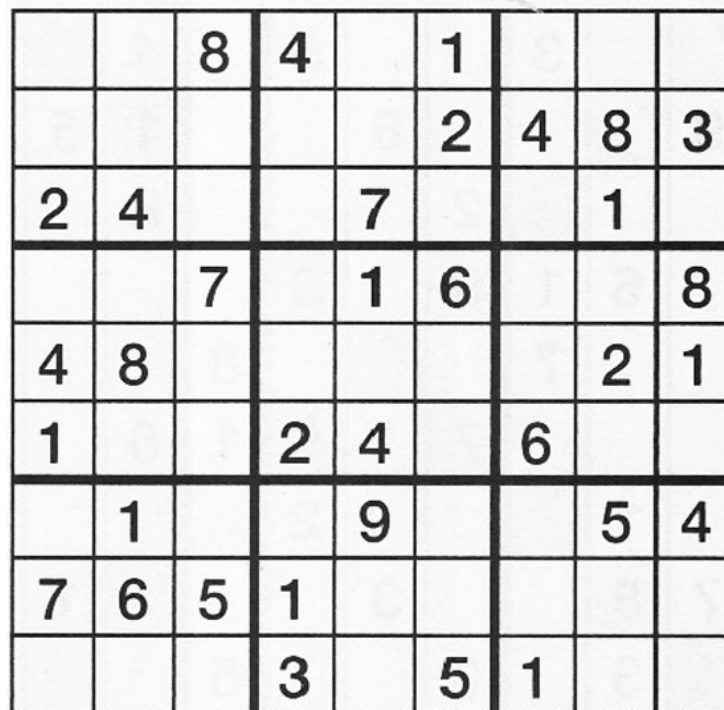
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	9	1	5	2	8	4	6	3
6	8	2	4	8	1	9	9	2
4	5	8	2	6	9	2	1	3
9	2	9	8	4	2	6	3	1
1	2	6	8	9	2	9	8	4
8	4	8	9	1	6	2	2	9
9	1	9	6	2	8	8	4	2
8	8	4	2	9	9	1	2	6
2	6	2	1	8	4	8	9	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Europe, developing world square off over IMF post



French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde speaks at a press conference in Washington last month

WASHINGTON (AFP) — French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde was emerging Friday as Europe's choice as the battle raged between advanced and emerging economic powers over who should lead the International Monetary Fund.

Lagarde is "practically a shoo-in" as the European Union's candidate to succeed Dominique Strauss-Kahn as IMF managing director, an EU source said.

An EU announcement was expected at next week's Group of Eight summit in France, the source said.

"We should get such a signal at Deauville," said the source, referring to the French beach resort where the two-day summit of the world's eight top industrialized powers opens Thursday. The G8 gathers Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States.

Strauss-Kahn's resignation

earlier this week to fight sex charges in New York has opened up a scramble for the top job.

Emerging economic powers like China, India and Brazil are calling for an end to Europe's lock on the position, the product of a 65-year-old gentleman's agreement that allowed Washington to monopolize the World Bank presidency.

Beijing's state media on Friday carried calls for the next IMF chief to be Chinese, with one editorial saying the economic powerhouse has "a large number of people capable of holding the position."

Angel Gurría, the Mexican head of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, said Friday the time had come to change the tradition of who leads the agency.

"I think that this time it is possible but it must be done quickly," he said.

India's executive director at the IMF warned that well-qualified candidates might not bother to stand for the post if it is already certain to go to a European.

The position is a crucial one in the world economy. The global lender of last resort, the IMF each year lends tens of billions of dollars to troubled countries to help right their economies when no others will help them.

But it also lays down strict standards of fiscal and economic reform for its clients which can upset political and social systems.

Oil prices chop higher on mixed signals

NEW YORK, (AFP) — Oil prices rose Friday amid erratic trade in New York as traders focused on disappointing economic data and signs of firming demand.

The main West Texas Intermediate (WTI) contract, light sweet crude for July, closed at \$99.49 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, a gain of \$1.05 from Thursday.

London's Brent North Sea crude for delivery in July settled 97 cents higher at \$112.39.

The benchmark WTI contract swung wildly between \$95.99 and \$99.90 during the session.

"Initially the market was very weak this morning in response to the stronger dollar," which makes dollar-priced crude more expensive, said Rich Ilczyszyn at futures brokerage Lind-Waldock.

But the greenback later weakened, lending support to oil prices.

In addition, there was an impact from market-positioning ahead of the weekend, the analyst said, as traders were

"probably reducing their exposure."

Early in the session crude prices were under pressure after Germany, Europe's biggest economy, said it saw economic growth slowing, said Andy Lipow at Lipow Oil Associates.

On Thursday, weaker-than-expected data on US manufacturing and housing shook confidence in the recovery outlook for the largest economy, the world's biggest oil-consumer, pushing prices lower.

While weaker US macroeconomic data weighed on prices, "the underlying fundamentals in the oil market itself remain very robust," Barclays Capital analysts said in a client note.

"Similar to last August when markets got jittery from a bout of weak US macroeconomic data, current sentiment remains fixated on potential downside risk, however small or unlikely they may be, oblivious to tightening fundamentals in the background."

Japan's TEPCO posts record loss as president resigns

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's Tokyo Electric Power on Friday posted a record \$15 billion loss and its under-fire president resigned to take responsibility for the worst nuclear crisis since Chernobyl 25 years ago.

The beleaguered utility posted an annual net loss of 1.247 trillion yen (\$15 billion), the biggest ever for a non-financial Japanese firm. The company did not give an earnings forecast for the current financial year.

With compensation liabilities estimated at tens of billions of dollars, the utility warned the "significant deterioration" in its financial position "raises substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern".

Its heavily criticised president Masataka Shimizu resigned over the crisis at its crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, after earlier saying he would likely step down at an appropriate time.

"The public has lost confidence in nuclear power," Shimizu told a press conference. "It is the right way for the top manager to take the ultimate responsibility." Sakae Muto, head of TEPCO's nuclear division, also resigned.

Managing director Toshio Nishizawa will replace Shimizu effective after a June shareholders meeting. He said he accepted it was his "fate to lead our efforts in this difficult time," as he apologised for the emergency.

The disaster has prompted

IMF approves 26 billion euro loan to Portugal

WASHINGTON, (AFP) — The International Monetary Fund on Friday approved a 26-billion-euro (\$36.9 billion) three-year loan to Portugal as part of a European Union bailout of the struggling eurozone country.

The "front-loaded" program makes about 6.1 billion euros "immediately available to Portugal" from the IMF, the Washington-based institution said in a statement.

EU finance ministers on Monday backed a three-year, 78-billion-euro EU-IMF bailout for Portugal on condition Lisbon embarks on a major raft of public sell-offs.

The ministers said they had agreed unanimously to rescue Portugal, making it the third eurozone country in a year to receive a multi-billion-euro bailout, after Greece and Ireland.

Japan to review plans to boost its use of atomic power as tens of thousands of people remain evacuated from homes, farms and businesses in a 20-kilometre (12-mile) zone around the radiation-spewing plant.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

B	E	G		P	H	I	L		T	B	A	
O	U	R		P	R	O	V	E		O	R	B
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Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest



Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are

sponse to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to count-

additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for the community with a workout room and spectacular facilities by the end of 2011. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the management association's rental service. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, making it easy for some owners to earn their mortgage payments or others to see an immediate return on their investment.

The design of the structures is open, airy and spacious, fully deploying the island environment, with the finest quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their homes. An elegant and chic standard package is available, or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval International to provide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.



barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community; in this area, the value of properties has only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the re-

less island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their own home in Aruba will eventually be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two



The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin



Jim and Callie from Michigan

restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!



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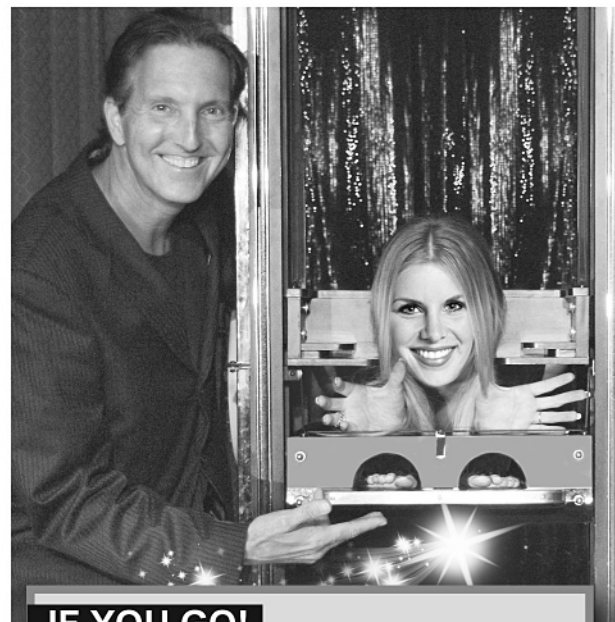
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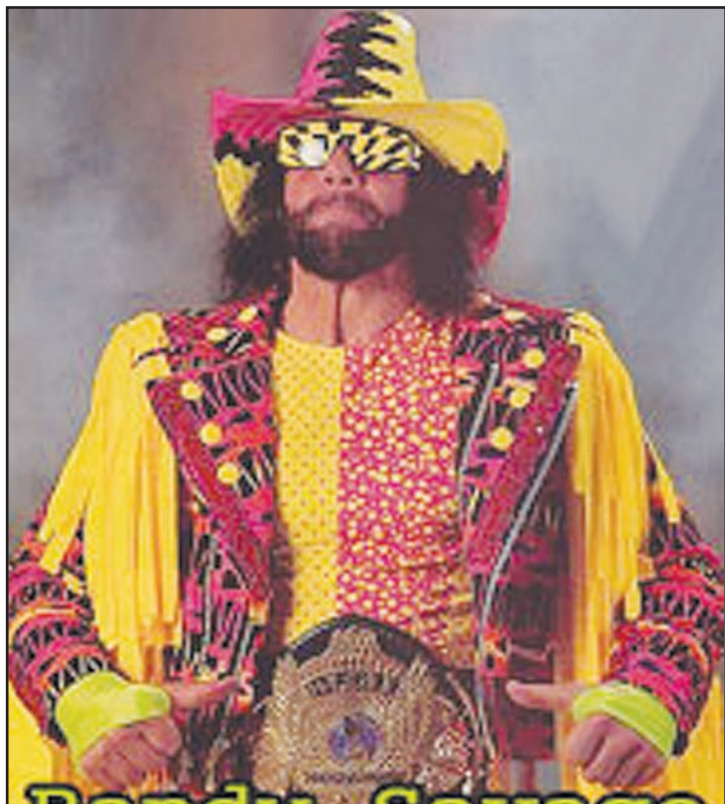
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'Macho Man' Randy Savage dies in a car crash



"Macho Man" Randy Savage, a professional wrestler who became a fan favorite thanks to his outlandish outfits and trademark catchphrase, died Friday in a car wreck, according to media news.

The 58-year-old Savage reportedly suffered a heart attack while driving his 2009 Jeep Wrangler in Tampa, Fla., and careened across lanes of oncoming traffic before colliding head-on with a tree. He

died later at a local hospital.

Savage's wife Lynn, who was riding in the passenger seat, escaped with only minor injuries. Both passengers were wearing seatbelts and the police do not believe alcohol was a factor.

The World Wrestling Federation favorite from Ohio burst onto the scene in 1985 and quickly drew attention with his flamboyant outfits and "ooh yeah!" catchphrase. His marriage to Elizabeth Hulette, Ms. Elizabeth to fans, was one of the first high-profile wrestler/valet relationships. They divorced in 1992. Savage remarried last year.

He won two WWF championships in his career. His match against Ricky Steamboat in 1987's Wrestlemania III is considered one of the best WWF bouts ever. Savage won the title late that year, setting the stage for memorable battles with Hulk Hogan, who would eventually dethrone him as champion.

Savage also appeared in memorable ads for Slim Jim and played a wrestler in the 2002 hit film "Spider-Man."



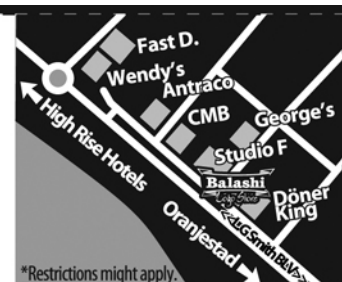
ROME, Italy: A 5.5m tall bronze statue of the late Pope John Paul II is seen in front of Rome's main railway station. The enormous statue, unveiled just weeks after the ex-pontiff was put on the path to sainthood, has sparked controversy -- with locals calling for it to go. The statue, which depicts John Paul II with his arms outstretched, has been called an eyesore by critics who claim it does nothing to capture John Paul's spirit.

AFP PHOTO

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Boxing: Hopkins to face Paskal today for the World Boxing Council light heavyweight crown



WBC-IBO light-heavyweight champion Jean Pascal *(L) and challenger Bernard Hopkins face off during their weigh-in, in Montreal.

MONTREAL, Canada (AFP) - Bernard Hopkins will try to become the oldest major world champion in boxing history today when he faces Canada's Jean Pascal in Montreal for the World Boxing Council light heavyweight crown.

Hopkins will be 126 days beyond his 46th birthday when he steps into the ring for a rematch of a controversial majority draw last December that allowed Pascal to keep his title.

That makes Hopkins 24 days older than US heavy-

weight legend George Foreman was when Foreman defended the International Boxing Federation crown against Germany's Axel Schulz in 1995 with a split-decision victory.

Foreman became the oldest fighter to take a world title when he knocked out fellow American Michael Moorer 2:03 into the 10th round to claim the IBF and World Boxing Association heavy-weight crowns on November 5, 1994.

"It means more to me to break the age record and prove that I am representing not just the older fighters, but older athletes in any sport," Hopkins said.

Hopkins, 51-5 with two drawn and 32 knockouts, reigned as world middleweight champion for 10 years before surrendering the undisputed crown to Jermain Taylor in 2005 at age 40.

Rujano wins Giro 13th stage ahead of Contador



GROSSGLOCKNER, Austria (AFP) - Venezuela's Jose Rujano of the Androni team won the 13th stage of the Tour of Italy on Friday ahead of Spaniard Alberto Contador

(Saxo Bank), who holds the overall leader's pink jersey.

Rujano completed the 167km in 4hr 45min 54sec with Contador right on his shoulder at the line and

Frenchman John Gadret completing the podium after the ride to Grossglockner in Austria from Spilimbergo.

Contador is still racing under the shadow of a doping controversy going back to last year's Tour de France and the Court of Arbitration for Sport earlier said it would hear his case from June 6-8 after the World Anti-Doping Agency and world's cycling's governing body UCI appealed a Spanish cycling federation's decision to rescind a year ban.

But he has been able to shrug off the controversy and clearly has found his form in the Giro so far.

"It was tough," the Spaniard admitted of Friday's race.

Hamilton says he saw Armstrong inject banned drug: report

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Lance Armstrong's former teammate Tyler Hamilton claims he saw the embattled seven-time Tour de France winner use banned drug EPO the first year he won the race in 1999, according to CBS News.

Hamilton told "60 Minutes" that he witnessed Armstrong using EPO (erythropoietin), which is designed to increase endurance by boosting production of red blood cells.

"I saw it in his refrigerator," Hamilton told the American news programme in the interview to air Sunday. "I saw him inject it more than one time like we all did, like I did many, many times."

The programme decided to release excerpts from the show Thursday.

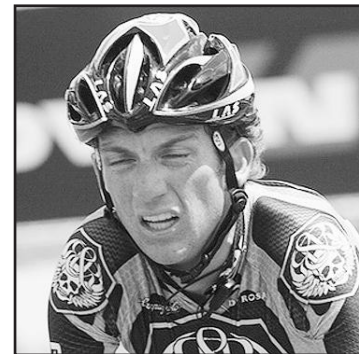
Cancer survivor Armstrong won the Tour de France for the first time in 1999 and captured every race from 1999-2005.

Armstrong has vehemently denied using performance-enhancing drugs during his controversial cycling career.

He reiterated that stance Thursday using his social networking page Twitter to get his message across.

"20+ year career. 500 drug controls worldwide, in and out of competition. Never a failed test. I rest my case," he said.

Hamilton also tried to debunk Armstrong's defence of never having failed a drug test. Hamilton told "60 Minutes" that Armstrong told him he failed a test 10 years ago at the



File Photo of Tyler Hamilton

Tour de Swiss, just prior to competing in the 2001 Tour de France.

Hamilton, who admits using performance-enhancing drugs, retired from cycling in 2009 after a second positive drug test.

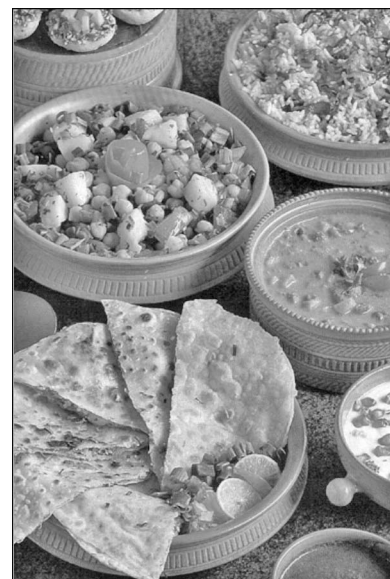
Hamilton says Armstrong took a blood-booster before the 2000 and 2001 Tour de France races.

Armstrong "took what we all took... the majority of the peloton," Hamilton told "60 Minutes". "There was EPO... testosterone... a blood transfusion."

Armstrong is the subject of a probe by federal investigators who are trying to determine if the US Postal cycling team owes much of their success to a systematic doping programme.

The 39-year-old Armstrong retired in February after a string of disappointing results.

Armstrong initially retired from cycling after the 2005 Tour de France, but returned to competition in 2009.



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East	W	L	Pct	GB
TAMPA	25	19	.568	--
NY YANKEES	23	19	.548	1.0
BOSTON	23	20	.535	1.5
TORONTO	22	21	.512	2.5
BALTIMORE	19	23	.452	5.0

Central

CLEVELAND	26	15	.634	--
DETROIT	22	21	.512	5.0
KANSAS CITY	21	22	.488	6.0
CHICAGO	20	25	.444	8.0
MINNESOTA	15	27	.357	11.5

West

TEXAS	23	21	.523	--
OAKLAND	22	22	.500	1.0
LA ANGELES	22	23	.489	1.5
SEATTLE	19	24	.442	3.5

National League**East**

PHILADELPHIA	26	17	.605	--
FLORIDA	24	18	.571	1.5
ATLANTA	25	21	.543	2.5
NY METS	21	22	.488	5.0
WASHINGTON	20	23	.465	6.0

Central

ST. LOUIS	26	19	.578	--
CINCINNATI	25	19	.568	0.5
MILWAUKEE	21	23	.477	4.5
PITTSBURG	20	23	.465	5.0
CHICAGO	19	23	.452	5.5
HOUSTON	15	29	.341	10.5

West

SAN FRANCISCO	24	19	.558	--
COLORADO	23	19	.548	0.5
ARIZONA	20	23	.465	4.0
LA DODGERS	20	25	.444	5.0
SAN DIEGO	19	25	.432	5.5

Thomas stops 31 shots in shutout of Lightning

TAMPA, Florida (AFP) — Tim Thomas stopped 31 shots for just his second career post-season shutout as the Boston Bruins blanked Tampa Bay 2-0 to seize a 2-1 lead in their NHL semi-final playoff series.

Andrew Ference and David Krejci scored goals for the Bruins, who can make it 3-1 with another win today in Florida.

Thomas gave up nine goals in the first two games of the series but he settled in

nicely from the beginning of Thursday's contest.

Thomas is in the running to win the Vezina Trophy, which is awarded annually to the National Hockey League's top goaltender.

Ference gave the Bruins a 2-0 lead with just over eight minutes left in the game on a shot from point. The puck trickled between the legs of Lightning goalie Dwayne Roloson and rolled just over the goal line.

Roloson faced 25 shots.



Scott Speed, driver of the #20 Dragon Racing Fuzzy's Vodka Dallara Honda, in action during practice for the Indianapolis 500 on May 20, 2011 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, Indiana. Drivers face a tense qualifying weekend for the 100th anniversary edition of the Indianapolis 500 after rain washed out 60 percent of the first five practice days, and a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms for Sunday's planned Final qualifying.

US braced for French Open mauling

PARIS (AFP) — The United States has gone 29 Grand Slam events without celebrating a men's champion and the French Open, which starts on Sunday, is unlikely to break that streak.

Andre Agassi was the last American to win the men's crown at Roland Garros in 1999 and Agassi was the last US player to get as far as the quarter-finals in 2003.

Since then, the mantle has passed to Andy Roddick, his country's last major winner when he lifted the 2003 US Open.

But Roddick, currently struggling with a right shoulder injury and who has never got beyond the fourth round in nine visits, on Thursday pulled out of the tournament, preferring to concentrate on Wimbledon where he has been runner-up three times.

Roddick is not even the national number one anymore, having been supplanted by close friend Mardy Fish, whose Roland Garros best is a second round spot.

These are dark days for American tennis.

Just a week ago, there was no US man or woman in the world's top 10 for the first time since the ranking system was introduced almost 40 years ago.

Serena Williams, the last American Roland Garros women's winner in 2002, is absent this year through injury as is sister Venus.

America's top player in the

women's draw will be Bethanie Mattek-Sands, the world 36. But the 26-year-old's best performance in Paris is two second round showings in 2008 and 2010.

However, Roger Federer, who along with Rafael Nadal has carved up 24 of the 29 majors since Roddick's 2003 US Open win, believes the Americans should not be written off.

"There are not that many teenagers in the top 100 so I think many countries are going through a phase where they do not have the talent they hoped to have," said the Swiss.

"Even in France, Germany, England or America, all those countries are struggling and waiting for an up and coming player like we always hope for like Rafa (Nadal), Novak (Djokovic) and myself, or (Andy) Roddick or (Michael) Chang.

Patrick McEnroe, the former Davis Cup skipper who now runs the United States Tennis Association's player development programme, believes the US can learn from the success of European players on clay courts.

"Spain has a very systematic approach to how they teach kids, when it comes to margin of error, when to attack, when to defend," he told the Wall Street Journal.

"You can go pretty much anywhere in Spain to a coach, and they'll teach you pretty much the same thing."

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McDowell takes on McIlroy at World Match Play

CASARES (AFP) - Fellow Northern Irishmen and Ryder Cup colleagues Graeme McDowell and Rory McIlroy will meet in a mouth-watering Volvo World Match Play Championship last 16 clash today.

McDowell, the US Open champion, topped his group when he followed up his win over British Open Champion Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa with a last green victory against Venezuela's Jhonattan Vegas.

McIlroy who defeated South Africa's Retief Goosen by one hole in his Thursday opener slumped to a shock 3 and 2 loss to Belgium's Nico-

las Colsaerts.

"Rory beats me every time we play together," said McDowell. "But this isn't the Northern Ireland match play championship and I'm hoping it's going to be different. It's the Volvo World Match Play and the pressure is on.

"He is a fabulous player, so talented. This course is all about driving the ball and he is pretty good at that. It's hard to play against a close friend, but you've got to leave your friendship on the sidelines."

McIlroy said about facing McDowell: "He's not going to give me anything - it's going to be a really tough match."

Thunder evens series 1-1



Kevin Durant of the Oklahoma City Thunder dunks the ball over Brendan Haywood #33 of the Dallas Mavericks as Haywood is called for a foul in the first quarter in Game Two
DALLAS, Texas (AFP) - Kevin Durant and the Oklahoma City Thunder defeated the Dallas Mavericks 106-100 behind a 24-point performance from Durant to level their NBA semi-final series at one game each.

James Harden finished with 23 points for the Thunder, who extended their streak of not suffering back-to-back losses in the playoffs this season.

"Everybody chipped in," said Thunder coach Scott Brooks. "Our bench has been good all year and they played great tonight."

Harden was part of a group of Thunder reserves that came on in the fourth quarter to outscore the Mavericks' five players. He

teamed with Eric Maynor, Nick Collison and Daequan Cook to play all 12 minutes of the fourth quarter.

The series now shifts to Oklahoma City for game three tonight.

"We did our job coming in here and getting the split is something you want to do," Durant said. "Going home doesn't guarantee us two wins. But it should be fun back at our place."

Collison was given the unenviable task of guarding German superstar Dirk Nowitzki. Nowitzki didn't match game one when he scored 48 points but he still managed to score 16 points in the fourth en route to a 29 total on Thursday.



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French stick with Blatter in FIFA vote

PARIS (AFP) - The French Football Federation said Friday it would back incumbent Sepp Blatter in the upcoming FIFA presidential election as he goes up against Asian football supremo Mohamed Bin Hammam.

Whereas England's FA revealed Thursday that it would abstain, smarting from a crushing defeat last December in the battle to stage the 2018 World Cup, the French said they would go with Blatter in the June 1 poll.

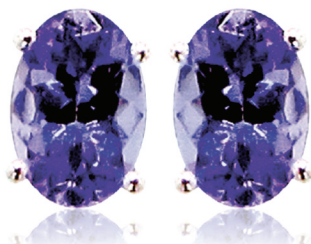
"The Federal Council (of the FFF) has decided that the Federation would support the candidature of Monsieur Blatter," said FFF chairman Fernand Duchaussoy.

Blatter, 75, will be out to land a fourth and last mandate at the head of world football's governing body. Bin Hammam is his only declared rival.

The winner needs a simple majority of votes cast by the body's 208 members.

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